



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Department for the Aging

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COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Department for the Aging

MEMORANDUM

TO: Executive Directors
Area Agencies on Aging

FROM: Barbara Childers, MSW

DATE: October 30, 2007

SUBJECT: Patient Advocate Foundation Resource

The Patient Advocate Foundation is a non-profit organization located in Newport News that provides services nationwide. The Foundation provides two programs that could be useful to seniors. First, is the co-pay relief program: www.copays.org. For this program, there are medical and financial qualifications. The website lists the medical conditions that a person needs to have in order to receive assistance. The majority are oncology related, but diabetes is also on the list. The Foundation can provide assistance with medications during the Medicare Part D "donut hole" in prescription drug coverage. It is an income-based program that does not look at assets, only the individual's monthly income. If the person has high out of pocket expenses, this is also taken into consideration. If the individual's application is approved, assistance is awarded for one year. The Foundation accepts applications at the beginning of each month and will retroactively pay up to 12 months of outstanding bills. There is a dollar limit on how much assistance can be provided during the 12 month period. The next resource is the Patient Advocate Foundation: www.patientadvocate.org. This program provides free care management services for those who are having issues with access to care, are under-insured, etc. According to the program manager, no one is turned away. The client calls the 1-800 number if they have a chronic, debilitating, or life-threatening disease. They are then assigned a care manager who can assist with applying for disability, arranging transportation, assisting with transitioning from work to Medicare or disability to Medicare, choosing a Medicare Part D plan, etc. The majority of the care management services are provided telephonically. If someone is denied assistance for co-pay relief or exhausts their benefit, they are often referred to the Patient Advocate Foundation so a care manager can find another way to assist the client. Neither of these programs has age limits, so it is available to those who may be unable to qualify for services from the AAAs.



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Department for the Aging

MEMORANDUM

TO: Executive Directors
Area Agencies on Aging

FROM: Ellen Nau, Human Services Program Coordinator

DATE: October 30, 2007

SUBJECT: LOA - 2007 Make a Difference Day Project – Soup for Seniors

PSA 5 - LOA, Local Office on Aging, Foster Grandparent and Senior Companion Programs received a tremendous response from the Roanoke community to their 2007 Make a Difference Day Project. Barbara James, SCP-FGP Director, created the Soup for Seniors Project as Make a Difference Day Project that is required by the Foster Grandparent and Senior Companion Programs. The original goal was to serve 600 seniors with five cans of soup and a box of crackers – generating a need for 3000 cans of soup and 600 boxes of crackers.

Soup cans arrived slowly at the Foster Grandparent and Senior Companion Programs' headquarters. Then an article about the project appeared in the Roanoke Times – and churches, schools, businesses and the Foundation of the Roanoke Valley donated generously to the campaign. School classes and businesses had competitions and challenge drives in order to collect soup. The cans of soup began appearing in large numbers at LOA!

Can there be a can of soup left on the grocery store shelves in Roanoke and environs? 31,016 cans of soup and 4,032 boxes of crackers were donated to the Soup for Seniors project. In addition, cash donations to the program totaled \$18,092 and additional food items were purchased for the seniors. More than 3,000 seniors received soup bags that included 10 or more cans of soup, 2 boxes of crackers, fruit cups, tuna and oatmeal.

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The whole LOA staff became involved in loading the food items into grocery bags donated by Roanoke's Ukrop's Supermarket. LOA distributed the bags to Meals on Wheels clients, Care Coordination clients, Congregate Meal Site participants, Transportation clients, Foster Grandparents and Senior Companions. Residents of senior housing projects also received food bags. The soup/cracker donations were so generous that LOA shared the bounty with its neighboring Area Agencies on Aging. LOA want to thank all individuals and organizations that contributed to making the Soup for Seniors Project a great success!